# Courting by Hand-Telephone---Some New Customs of Love and Marriage

HIS letter is written for the dear "little chickens" of the United
States. I mean chickens in the
Mexican sense. The young women and
girls of this country are affectionately
called "chickens." If they are under eighteen they go by the name of "pol-litas," or little chickens, and if over that they are called "pollas," or grown up or big chickens. The com-parison is even carried out as to the men. If young and marriageable, they are known as "gallinos," or young roosters. If old and tough they are

called "gallos," or old cocks.

I am writing this for our girls rather than for the boys, but I doubt not it will form good feed for our old roosters as well. It is about the women of Mexico-how they how they love, and how they are courted and wedded.

Mexico's Beautiful Girls.
I wish I could take you with me through the Alameda here at the capital or around any of the big plazas of the interior cities when the band plays Sunday evenings. The girls are plays Sunday evenings. The girls are then out en masse, and the boys as well. The girls walk by themselves and the boys by themselves, Each sex goes double file, and so that they face as they pass. The men stare hard at the girls. It is not improper here for a man to look at a woman, and if he ogles her she thinks it a compliment. This ogling goes on even in the business streets during shopin the business streets during snop-ping hours, and it flies from carriage to carriage along the fashionable drives. The amorous glances, how-ever, come from only the men. The girls are so watched that it takes a without the knowledge of the mother always goes with her to keen her in order

Not many years ago it was the rule or the girls to have their faces half hidden by their mantillas, and even now this is done somewhat by the sevillana or little mantilla; a small shawl of black lace which they drape over the head on going to church. The Mexican custom forbids one go She cannot wear a hat or bonnet to black, with her head draped in black

pecially seem good to my eyes. The A great many girls marry at fast passing away. fifteen and sixteen, and the girl who has no husband by the time she is twenty is on the road to old maiden-

After that her beauty begins to deto fatness, and after thirty she needs admire when you may not ha some antifat remedy. The young girls means of a good introduction.



They are all good dancers. This girl is dancing La Sitala en la Jota, a favor-ite Spanish dance. She is a typical

from Paris, and they are as well clad as the women of any part of the world. Mexico has many French No Wonder They Ogle the Girls.

I do not blame the men for admiring the girls. Mexico is a land of beautiful women, and the pollitas estimates. The street costumes on the Alameda are fine, and the girls come girls mature here much sooner than there to show them. It is only among Uncle Sam's maidens. At twelve they the old families, back in the country. are as old as our girls of sixteen, and that the mantillas are used upon such at fourteen they are ready for mar- occasions, and the Spanish costume is

How to Become Acquainted. The social customs here are far dif-ferent from ours. In some respects the Mexican way is a relic of the Dark Ages, and in others it is more free than that of the United States. Take After that her beauty begins to de-cline. At twenty-five or six her se-dentary life has turned her plumpness the matter of meeting the girl you admire when you may not have the

order with rosy cheeks and dark eyes and hair. The hair is often as black as midnight in the tropics, and it frows so luxuriantly that it falls to the waist. It is seldem tortured with curling irons, and it has a good wash every week, so that it is fluffy and office and a present, asking her to accept it from the waist. It is seldem tortured with curling irons, and it has a good wash every week, so that it is fluffy and office and a present, asking her charms. This every week, so that it is fluffy and office and curling irons, and it has a good wash every week, so that it is fluffy and clean. Here in the city it is often worn in the most modern way, but as a rule, it is brought down over the forehead, almost meeting the eyembors. Some girls wear their hair banged.

The features of the Meyman women.



girls of the capital wear costumes pollita or "love at first sight," even if you are really in earnest, you can phones, in which Juliet, standing on ch hand every day, rain or shine, for

other day this beau was asked why he continued to play the bear when bricks.

yet gotten to the telephone act. The other day this beau was asked why he continued to play the bear when his sweetheart gave him so little encouragement. He replied: "Oh, I love her so dearly, and she is so rich!"

Courting the Whole Family.

During this bear act the family of the girl knows what is going on. They keep the girl in until they have investigated the Antecedents, character and financial condition of the would be lover, and when these are not satisfactory she is forbidden to go to the window. If the man proves all right the family still keeps track of the courtship, and after they conclude that he has served long enough he is in vited into the house. This means that the family is favorable to the match, and is practically an engagement. The man is then allowed to court openly, but when he comes to call he finds a number of other members of the family give him an opportunity to steal a good-night kiss, but as a rule all of his billing and cooling is done in the presence of papa and mamma, grandma and grandpa, and of little devits in the shape of the younger brothers and sisters, whose saucer-like eyes never close during his stay.

If he thinks to escape by taking his girl to a concert or theatre, he learns that it is the custom for him to ask the mother and others of the family to go with them, and he is also expected to make presents to the parents, brothers and sisters during the court-ship. This makes his courting very expensive, and he is anxious to hurry the wedding day fixed.

How One American Courted a Mexican.

If takes several weeks to go to a half-dozen different officials, and every one before the church marriage and for the civil marriage has to take place before the church marriage and for the civil marriage has to take place before the church marriage and for witnesses, including the American consist of the court marriage has to take place before the church marriage has to take place before the church marriage has to take place before the court had been announced and the court of the w

the wedding day, when he may have his love to himself.

How One American Courted a Mexican. Playing the bear, or eating iron. The windows are barred, and the dear little

Playing the bear, or eating iron. The windows are barred, and the dear little "chickens are kept in iron cages."

The balcony or behind the bars of her second-story front window, throws a combination receiver and transmitter to her Romeo, on the street below, and the two whisper their love messages back and forth over the wire. This is the latest innovation, and as yet it is not very common.

The old method of playing the bear may be seen on any residence street at certain hours of the day or evening. The man is not allowed to call upon the girl, and he cannot meet her allone. He has the right, however, to walk up and down the street in front of her house and to ozle her at a distance. He may even chat with her if she will as she sits on the balcony or behind the bars of the first-story windows. All of the Mexican residence windows are barred, and there would not see her allone the may have sent his present and have intended to walk up and down the street in front of her house and to ozle her at a distance. He may even chat with her if she will as she sits on the balcony or behind the bars of the first-story windows. All of the Mexican residence windows are barred, and these dear "little chickens" are kept, as it were, in iron cages.

The regulation procedure is as foilows: We will take the lover who, as yet, is comparatively unknown. He may have sent his present and have intended to allow the collegent the process of the second visit, and at the titre of the family, and the whole family came and that the provided to the second visit, and at the third walk the whole family came the two will are thought the bars are legally illegitimate. The sold marriage are legally illegitimate. The sold marriage are legally illegitimate. The the satisfies the form the whole family came and that the third was the first story and the whole family came and that the third walk the count of the large hard the whole family came and that the walk the provided the search of the second visit, and at the third walk the walk the walk th

to walk in front of her windtw, but she may not appear. However, if he comes again and again at the same.

In a Meyican marriage the groom

the purpose. If he comes only when the sun shines he is considered a fair weather lover and is apt to find the blinds closed 'after the first heavy rain.

I have heard of cases where such courtship has gone on for years, the bear froilicking about for months before the fickle maid would exchange a single word with him. In one instance here, a young man has kept it up for three years, and he has not yet gotten to the telephone act. The other day this beau was asked why I am told the meaer sent in the

Weddings by Wholesale.

clean. Here in the city it is often worm in the most modern wity, but as often worm in the most modern wity, but as a rule, it is brought down over the hour and she likes him as a rule, it is brought down over the modern make and as a rule, it is brought down over the modern make and as a rule, it is brought down over the modern make and as a rule, it is brought down over the modern make and as a rule, it is brought down over the modern make a rule, it is brought down over the hour and she likes him, she will finally blower classes admost method and after that the visits a typical native dance. The girl put her foot on the hat and dances around the rim.

It is all rule, and after a rule, and after a rule of the welfare of the giver. The comes the window is a typical native dance. The girl put her foot on the hat and dances around the rim.

See may not appear. However, if he mose as give up in despite the is expected to furnish the trous the foot of the hat and dances around the rim.

The Grown Buys the Briedi Outst.

In a Mexican marriage the groom and again at an all again and again at the will sail blower classes all did on and after that the visits a typical native dance. The girl put her foot on the hat and dances around the visit of the put in the put of the trous and provide of the dances. Also you make never met her before, and sative and a stant at the visits and provide from the trous the risk in the countines from the price of the dances. The girl put her foot on the hat and dances around the trous the risk in the put is a special that it will stone the risk in the put is a continued from day to day to the risk in the put is a typical native dance. The girl put her foot on the hat and the risk in the risk i

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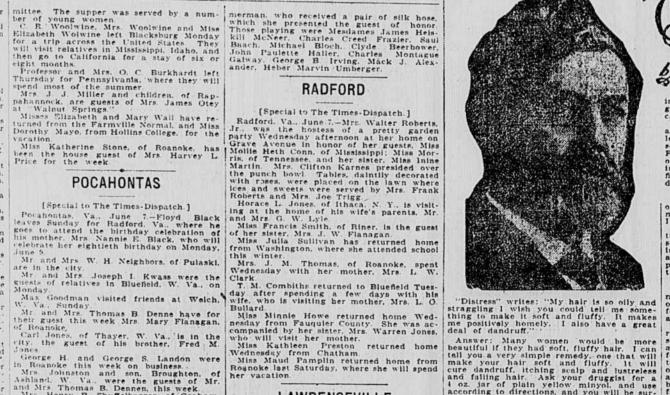
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merman, who received a pair of silk hose, which she presented the guest of honor. Those playing were Mesdames James Heiskill McNeer, Charles Creed Frazier, Saul Baach, Michael Bloch, Clyde Beerbower, John Paulette Haller, Charles Montague Galway, George B. Irving, Mack J. Alexander, Heber Marvin Umberger.

### RADFORD

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

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The DOCTOR'S
ADVICE
by Dr. Lewis Baker

The questions answered below are general in character. The symptoms or diseases are given and the answers will apply to any case of similar nature.

Those wishing further advice, free, may address Dr. Lewis Baker, College Bldg., College-Bldwood Sts., Dayton, Ohio, enclosing seif-addressed, stamped envelope for reply. Full name and address must be given, but only initials or fictitious names will be used in my answers. The prescriptions can be filled at any well-stocked drug store. Any druggist can order of wholesaler.